

Tilden's Principles of Interpretation

- 1 Any interpretation that does not somehow relate what is being displayed or being described to something within the personality or experience of the visitor will be sterile.
- 2 Information, as such, is not interpretation. Interpretation is revelation based upon information. But they are entirely different things. However, all interpretation includes information.
- 3 Interpretation is an art which combines many arts whether the materials presented are scientific, historical or architectural. Any art is in some degree teachable.
- 4 The chief aim of interpretation is not instruction, but provocation.
- 5 Interpretation should aim to present a whole rather than a part and must address itself to the whole man rather than any phase.
- 6 Interpretation addressed to children should not be a dilution of the presentation to adults, but should follow a fundamentally different approach. To be at its best it will require a separate program.